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Response to Office Action dated Dec. 9, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-75 (Cancelled).

Claim 76 (Currently Amended): A method for treating one or more shoes,

comprising, prior to washing the one or more shoes with or in an aqueous medium, applying

a conditioning treating composition comprising a conditioner to the inside of the one or more

shoes and applying a cleaning treating composition to the outside of the one or more shoes,

wherein at least one of the treating compositions the conditioning treating composition is

formulated so that any damage as a result of washing the one or more shoes with or in an

aqueous medium with application of the at least one conditioning treating composition is

reduced as compared to washing the one or more shoes with or in an aqueous medium

without application of the at least one conditioning treating composition.

Claim 77 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 76, further comprising

washing the one or more treated shoes with a wash solution.

Claim 78 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 77, wherein the wash solution

has a pH of from about 4 to about 10, and a temperature from about 40°F to about 180°F.

Claim 79 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 78, wherein the wash solution

has a pH of from about 5 to about 10, and a temperature of from about 50°F to about 150°F.

Claim 80 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 78, wherein the wash solution has a pH of from about 6 to about 9, and a temperature of from about 60°F to about 100°F.

Claim 81 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76, wherein the conditioning treating composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of gels, liquids, solids, pastes, foams, sprays, aerosols, bars and mixtures thereof.

Claim 82 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 81, wherein the conditioning treating composition is in the form of a gel.

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 81, wherein the conditioning treating composition is in the form of a liquid.

Claim 84 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76, further comprising placing the one or more treated shoes in a containment bag, which may either be done by placing the one or more treated shoes in the same containment bag or placing at least two treated shoes in separate containment bags, and placing the bag or bags into a wash solution.

Claim 85 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 84, wherein: the containment bag(s) contain one or more additional treating compositions; or one or more additional treating compositions are in both the containment bag(s) and the wash solution.

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Claim 86 (Previously Presented): A method for washing one or more shoes, comprising applying a conditioning treating composition comprising a conditioner to the inside of the one or more shoes, and after application of the conditioning treating composition, washing the one or more treated shoes with or in an aqueous medium comprising a cleaning composition, wherein the conditioning treating composition is formulated so that any damage as a result of washing the one or more shoes with or in an aqueous medium with application of the conditioning treating composition is reduced as compared to washing the one or more shoes with or in an aqueous medium without application of the conditioning treating composition.

Claim 87 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76, wherein the cleaning treating composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of gels, liquids, solids, pastes, foams, sprays, aerosols, bars and mixtures thereof.

Claim 88 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76, wherein the cleaning treating composition is in the form of a gel.

Claim 89 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 84 wherein: the containment bag(s) contain one or more the cleaning treating compositions; or one or more the cleaning treating compositions are in both the containment bag(s) and the wash solution.

Claim 90 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 86 further comprising applying a post-wash treating composition to the one or more shoes after washing the one or more shoes.

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Claim 91 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the conditioning treating composition is in the form of a liquid and the cleaning treating composition is in the form of a gel.

Claim 92 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the cleaning treating composition comprises at least one cleaning agent selected from the group consisting of: one or more surfactants, calcium/magnesium removal agents, alkaline pH modifiers, soil release agents, enzymes, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 93 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 92 wherein the one or more calcium/magnesium removal agents are selected from the group consisting of polycarboxylates, polyacrylates, salts of polyacrylic acids, acrylate/maleate copolymers, salts of acrylate/maleic acid copolymers, citrates, ether polycarboxylates, oxydisuccinate, polyaspartates, polyglycolates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 94 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 92 wherein the one or more calcium/magnesium removal agents are selected from the group consisting of: polyacrylates, salts of polyacrylic acids, acrylate/maleate copolymers, salts of acrylate/maleic acid copolymers, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 95 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the cleaning treating composition comprises one or more surfactants, and the one or more surfactants are selected from the group consisting of: anionic, nonionic, cationic, zwitterionic, and amphophilic surfactants and mixtures thereof.

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Claim 96 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 95 wherein the one

or more surfactants are selected from the group consisting of anionic surfactants, nonionic

surfactants and mixtures thereof.

Claim 97 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 95 wherein the one

or more surfactants comprise nonionic surfactant comprising C₈-C₁₈ alkyl ethoxylate, with an

average degree of ethoxylation from about 5 to about 15 moles of ethylene oxide per mole of

alcohol, and the treating composition contains from about 1% to about 80% by weight of

nonionic surfactant.

Claim 98 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the

cleaning treating composition comprises one or more surfactants and one or more

calcium/magnesium removal agents selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, salts

of polyacrylic acids, acrylate/maleate copolymers, salts of acrylate/maleic acid and mixtures

thereof.

Claim 99 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 95 wherein the

cleaning treating composition comprises nonionic surfactant.

Claim 100 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the

conditioning treating composition comprises at least one conditioning agent selected from the

group consisting of: acrylic syntans and other hydrophobically modified polymers, silicones,

fluorocarbons, fatliquors, lecithin, fluoropolymers, sucrose polyesters, quaternary ammonium

salts, oils, waxes and mixtures thereof.

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Claim 101 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 100 wherein the conditioning agent comprises one or more hydrophilic units and one or more hydrophobic units such that the ratio of hydrophilic units to hydrophobic units is from about 0.01 to about 100.

Claim 102 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the conditioning treating composition comprises at least one disinfecting agent, wherein the disinfecting agent is selected from the group consisting of: quaternary ammonium salts, saturated and unsaturated C₈ to C₁₁ fatty acids, phenols and their salts, o-phenyl phenol and its salts, t-amyl phenol and its salts, alkyl phenols and their salts, trichlorocarbanilide, 4-chloro-3,5-dimethylphenol and its salts, chlorhexidine, phospholipids, thymol, eugenol, geraniol, oil of lemon grass, limonene, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 103 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein the disinfecting agent comprises C₈-C₁₀ fatty acid, and is used at a pH less than about 5.5.

Claim 104 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein the disinfecting agent is selected from the group consisting of: benzalkonium chlorides; substituted benzalkonium chlorides; dialkyl quaternary; N-(3-chloroallyl) hexaminium chlorides; benzethonium chloride; methylbenzethonium chloride; and cetylpyridinium chloride.

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Claim 105 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 102 wherein the

disinfecting agent is selected from the group consisting of: chlorhexidene and its salts, and

polyhexamethylene biguanide hydrochloride and its salts.

Claim 106 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 76 wherein the

cleaning treating composition and/or the conditioning treating composition comprises a

perfume.

Claim107 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 106 wherein the

perfume comprises at least about 25% of substantive perfume ingredients by weight of the

treating composition.

Claim 108 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 90 wherein the

post-wash treating composition comprises at least one soil release agent, waterproofing agent,

film-forming polymer and/or a mixture thereof.